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# **GOURLEY** **GENEALOGY**

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# **GOURLEY GENEALOGY**





JAMES GOURLEY 1808-1874



# Genealogy of Samuel Gourley and his descendants, **1784-1909**

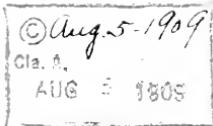
Together with accounts of the families of Albert E. Gurley, Thomas B. Gourley, James Gourley, C. C. Lounsberry, James Gourley, Arthur Gourley, Thomas Gourley, Samuel B. Gourley, Joseph Gourley and George Gourley, and account of Gourley Re-union, 1908.

BY

C. T. HEYDECKER

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WACKEGAN, ILLINOIS

Price \$1.00



GOURLEY

GURLEY



PROFLUNDA CERNIT.

May it be realized in whatever clime, in seeing clearly our duty to  
God, and to avoid danger.

This book is dedicated as a souvenir to my beloved wife, Caroline A.  
Heydecker, a daughter of the late James Gourley.





HOME OF C. T. HEYDECKER, WAUKELAN, ILL.

## P R E F A C E.

In the preparation of this little book, entitled "Genealogy of Samuel Gourley and His Descendants," I have attempted to collect all the matter of general interest, together with such data as has been obtainable relating to said family, from about the year 1784 down to and including the present time, giving the facts as were best known to the descendants, which have been retained in this book in the original letters written by the relatives, and those who knew the general facts relating to the family.

To this has been added the names, dates of birth, marriages and deaths of all of the descendants, so far as has been able to be traced by correspondence and interviews.

The compiler desires to recognize and thank for courtesies extended in this research Albert E. Gourley, James Gourley, Arthur Gourley, C. C. Lounsberry, Thomas B. Gourley, Martha Gourley Gehlman, Francis A. Day, Samuel B. Gourley and Mary B. Crawford.

In writing a work of even this small character, it required a large amount of patience and correspondence, which is amply repaid by the satisfaction that all have been ready and willing to lend a helping hand in gathering these facts. It is hoped that this little volume will be of interest to the family and a mode of preserving the facts and records therein set forth. If this is thereby accomplished, it will have answered its purpose.

C. T. HEYDECKER.

Waukegan, Illinois, August 16, 1900.

### SAMUEL COURLEY'S FAMILY.

1. Samuel Courley, b. ———; d. at Pickaway Co., Ohio, about 1820; m. ———.
2. Nancy Sibbet, at Philadelphia, Pa.; d. (86), aged 86 years, at Mt. Vernon, Iowa.

Their children are:

3. William; never married; died about 1870.
4. Samuel Sibbet (10).
5. Nancy Sibbet; m. ——— Lawrence; no children.
6. John; never married; died before he was 30.
7. James (30).
8. Joseph (105).
9. Isaac; never married; dead.

Four children died in infancy.

### SAMUEL SIBBET COURLEY'S FAMILY.

10. Samuel Sibbet Courley, b. Oct. 13, 1800; d. Dec. 22, 1838; m. Jan. 14, 1823.
11. Elizabeth Robinson, b. Aug. 27, 1805; d. Sept. 27, 1839.

Their children are:

12. Thomas B., died in infancy.
13. Nelson R., b. Aug. 31, 1827; d. Sept. 20, 1828.
14. Hannah Pauline (28).
15. Thomas Burrell, b. May 14, 1834.
16. Mary Elizabeth, b. Dec. 10, 1837; d. Jan. 1, 1838.

Thomas B. Courley, nephew of James Courley, late of Springfield, Ill., and son of Samuel S. Courley.

17. Thomas B. Courley, b. May 14, 1834; lives at Paso Robles, Calif.; m. May 3, 1859.
18. Althea Lillian Hinckley.

Their children are:

19. Clarence William, b. Jan. 28, 1860.
20. Alice Luella, b. Nov. 15, 1862.
21. Minnie Florence, b. Dec. 29, 1864.
22. Jennie Eliza, b. Jan. 31, 1866.
23. Arthur Franklin, b. Aug. 8, 1868.
24. Charles Allen, b. Nov. 4, 1871.
25. Addison Phelps, b. April 17, 1873.
26. Thomas Adelbert, b. Nov. 10, 1874.
27. Nellie Marcia, b. April 13, 1878.  
 Letter of Thomas B. Gourley, Part II.
28. Hannah P. Gourley, a daughter of Samuel S. Gourley; b. Sept. 14, 1829; d. ———, 1885; m. March 1, 1848.
29. Abram Haas; both are dead; never had any children; resided at Pekin, Ill.

#### JAMES GOURLEY'S FAMILY.

(Letter of Martha J. Gehlman, Part II.)

The family Bible, now with Mrs. Francis A. Day, Springfield, Ill., contains the following:

30. James Gourley, son of Samuel Gourley and Nancy Sibbet, was born in Westmoreland Co., Penn., Aug. 2, 1808; d. March 26, 1874.
31. Lucy Ann Poe, daughter of Jacob and Rebecca Poe, was born in Chatham Co., North Carolina, June 11, 1818; d. April 20, 1863.

NOTE.—Thomas Poe, a brother of Lucy Ann (Poe) Gourley, married Jane ———, who died. They had children: Elizabeth, Margaret and Lemuel. He then married Rebecca Bond, and they had Emma; Olive, who married ——— Roberts, a minister, at St. Paul, Minn.; Frederick; Lemuel, married Lucy Ann Payne; their children are James, Thomas, Lemuel and Lucy and others whose names cannot be learned.

James Poe, also a brother of Mrs. James Gourley, married (name of wife cannot be obtained). Their children are: Lemuel, who was killed at battle of Shiloh, Tenn.; Neomia, Cornelius and others whose names cannot be obtained. One of the daughters married a Mr. Gill.

Mr. James Gourley, an old citizen of this city, breathed his last on March 26, 1874, about 10 a. m.

Mr. Gourley was confined to his room just three weeks with pneumonia, suffering great pain during the greater part of his sickness. Mr. Gourley was 66 years of age; was well and favorably known in this city,

where he had resided for many years. As a business man, in his younger days, he was energetic, prompt and reliable. He filled the office of constable, deputy sheriff and deputy United States marshal, to the satisfaction of those having business with him. He was for a number of years the tyler of a body of Masons, of which he was a member, and in all the relations of life he was known as the possessor of a kindly heart, ever ready to serve his friends, and affectionately attached to his large family of children and grandchildren. He was strictly honest in his dealings and charitable in his judgment of the acts of his fellowmen. Peace to his ashes and sympathy for his children in the loss of a father that was always near in affliction and very indulgent.—*Springfield Monitor*.

31a. James Gourley, son of Samuel Gourley; b. Aug. 2, 1808, at Westmoreland Co., Penn.; d. March 26, 1874, and buried at Springfield, Ill.; m. Feb. 27, 1837.

31b. Lucy Ann Poe, of Chatham Co., North Carolina; b. June 11, 1818; d. April 20, 1863, and buried at Springfield, Ill.

Children:

- 31c. Martha Jane (41).
32. William Henry Harrison (50).
33. Charles Sibbet (56).
34. Francis Ann (62).
35. Albert Franklin (70).
36. Mary Louise (85).
37. Caroline Alice (87).
38. James Thomas (93).
39. Ada Emma Dora (100).
40. Mayble Clark (107).
41. Martha Jane Goutley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Nov. 26, 1837; resides at Springfield, Ill.; m. Sept. 24, 1866.
42. Ernest E. Gehlman, b. April 28, 1827; d. May 25, 1868; buried at Springfield, Ill.

Children:

43. Frederick, b. Jan. 15, 1868, at Springfield, Ill.
44. Alice E. (48).
45. Francis Taylor, b. Oct. 10, 1871, at Springfield, Ill.
46. Ernest Gourley, b. Oct. 31, 1874, at Springfield, Ill.
47. Louis Walker (46).

48. Alice E. Gehlman, daughter of Martha J. Gourley; b. Nov. 29, 1860; m. Oct. 26, 1904.

48a. Eugene E. Bone, b. Jan. 12, 1867. Resides at Springfield, Ill.  
Children:

48b. Robert Gehlman, b. June 2, 1906.

48c. Francis Eugenia, b. May 21, 1908.

NOTE.—Eugene E. Bone was Grand Chancellor Commander of the Order of Knights of Pythias of the State of Illinois for the year 1908-1909.

49. Louis Walker Gehlman, son of Martha J. Gourley; b. March 28, 1877; m. June 11, 1902.

49a. Lillian E. Wood, b. March 9, 1881. Resides at Springfield, Ill.  
Children:

49b. Louis Wood, b. March 7, 1904.

49c. Margarite Lucile, b. Sept. 3, 1905.

49d. Leonard Wood, b. Aug. 28, 1907.

50. William Henry Harrison Gourley, son of James Gourley; b. March 25, 1840; deputy naval officer, New York City; m. Sept. 3, 1863.

51. Ella Sutherland, b. Dec. 28, 1841, a daughter of Judge James Sutherland, Jr., of New York City.

Child:

52. Blanche (53).

53. Blanche Gourley, daughter of William Henry Harrison Gourley; b. June 16, 1868; resides at Detroit, Mich.; m. ———, 1891.

54. John F. Richartz.

Child:

55. Ruth Dorothy, b. April 18, 1892; d. ———.

Divorced; second marriage (190).

55a. Franklin Trapp.

Says the August 19 issue of the *Republican News*, a journal published in New York City:

"There is no officer connected with the customs service who has a better knowledge of the laws and requirements of that service than Harrison W. Gourley, special deputy naval officer. He is one of the authorities on the complex questions constantly arising. Mr. Gourley has passed through nearly every grade of naval office work, thus eminently fitting him for the responsible position he now occupies."

"Mr. Gourley was born in Springfield, Ill., and studied law there. He was originally appointed to the naval office as a personal appointment of Abraham Lincoln in 1861, and is now a special deputy naval officer. A courteous, kindly gentleman in personal and business life, but strictly business where business is involved."

56. Charles Sibbet Gourley, son of James Gourley; b. Dec. 3, 1842; d. Aug. 22, 1884; buried at Junction, Oregon; m.

57. Mary Stewart, b. —— ; d. Aug. 6, 1883; buried at Portland, Oregon.

Children:

58. Ada.

59. Minnie M.

60. George.

61. James.

No trace can be obtained of this branch of the family.

62. Francis Ann Gourley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Feb. 14, 1844; resides at Springfield, Ill.; m. March 1, 1864.

63. Nathan Gillman.

Children:

64. Charles Harrison (67).

65. Albert Franklin (71).

Divorced; second marriage Jan. 7, 1807.

66. Horatio A. Day, b. Nov. 25, 18—; resides at Springfield, Ill.

No children.

67. Charles Harrison Gillman, son of Francis Ann Gourley; b. Oct. 23, 1864; d. April 6, 1903; buried at Freelove, Pa.; m. May 23, 1897.

68. Myrtle A. Braden, b. —— ; resides at Parkersburg, W. Va.

Children:

69. William Gourley, b. Sept. 25, 1890.

70. Mary Francis, b. March 18, 1901.

71. Albert Franklin Gillman, son of Francis A. Gourley; b. Nov. 13, 1867; m. —— .

72. Celia J. Cantrall, b. Dec. 18, 1871.

Children:

73. Harry A. (75a).

74. Maybel L. (75c).
75. Blanche C., b. July 2, 1862
- 75a. Harry A. Gillman, daughter of Albert Franklin Gillman; b. June 18, 1887; m. ———, 1908.
- 75b. ———.
- 75c. Mayble L. Gillman, daughter of Albert Franklin Gillman; b. April 25, 1890; m. ———.
- 75d. ———.
76. Albert Franklin Gourley, son of James Gourley; b. Oct. 20, 1840; resides at Springfield, Ill.; m. May 31, 1871.
77. Jennett Craig, b. July 11, 1848.  
Children:  
78. Roy J. (81).
79. Vincent C., b. Sept. 10, 1884.
80. Louis Hill, b. Oct. 17, 1880.
81. Roy J. Gourley, son of Albert Franklin Gourley; b. Feb. 6, 1874; resides at Springfield, Ill.; m. June 10, 1896.
82. Mary Ethel Beroley, b. Dec. 21, 1870.  
Children:  
83. Ethel Fern, b. Dec. 17, 1897.
84. Roy Clifford, b. Feb. 17, 1902.
85. Mary Louisa Gourley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Feb. 14, 1849; d. Sept. 17, 1875; buried at Barry, Ill.; m. June 12, 1873.
86. E. J. Hurt, b. ———; resides at Barry, Ill.  
Child:  
Baby, died when a few days old.
87. Caroline Alice Gourley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Jan. 25, 1851; resides at Waukegan, Ill.; m. April 18, 1875.
88. Christian Townsend Heydecker, b. Sept. 4, 1846; resides at Waukegan, Ill.  
Children:  
89. Coral T., b. Feb. 21, 1880.
90. Nina Louisa, b. Dec. 12, 1883; d. Oct. 23, 1884.
91. Bessie Irene, b. March 16, 1886.
92. Alice Emma, b. June 2, 1888.

C. T. Heydecker is a descendant of Henry Townsend, of the Townsend brothers, who were driven from Boston, Mass., as Quakers, and, with others, made the settlement at Oyster Bay, Long Island, N. Y., and we here produce the family coat of arms of the Townsend and Heydecker ancestors:



C. T. Heydecker was state's attorney for his county, being elected three times, and held many positions of honor in the fraternal societies of which he is a member.



93. James Thomas Gourley, son of James Gourley; b. Jan. 18, 1853; resides at Springfield, Ill.; m. Dec. 5, 1878.
94. Anna M. Rubly; b. March 18, 1858.

Children:

95. Harrison C., b. June 8, 1870; d. Aug. 22, 1870.
96. Louise (99a).
97. George Wood, b. Sept. 23, 1883.
98. James Thomas, b. Jan. 23, 1891.
99. Samuel Rubly, b. June 25, 1898.
- 99a. Louise Gourley, daughter of James T. Gourley; b. Sept. 26, 1881; m. Sept. 2, 1903.
- 99b. Millard Lobdell, b. July 9, 1870; resides at Springfield, Ill.

Children:

- 99c. Anna Louise, b. Aug. 25, 1905.
- 99d. Charles Jerome, b. Jan. 27, 1908.
100. Ada Emma Dora Gourley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Feb. 27, 1855; resides at Waukegan, Ill.; m. Dec. 24, 1874.
101. George S. Gehlman, b. April 21, 1853; d. Feb. 1, 1905; buried at Waukegan, Ill.

Children:

102. Lynn Severs, b. Sept. 14, 1875; d. Oct. 6, 1876.
103. Albert James (105).
104. Georgianna, b. Sept. 18, 1879, at Denver, Colo.
105. Albert James Gehlman, son of Ada Emma Dora Gourley; b. Dec. 6, 1876; resides at Chicago, Ill.; m. July 6, 1908.
106. Anna Ring, b. Nov. 6, 1881.
107. Mayble Clark Gourley, daughter of James Gourley; b. Nov. 28, 1857; d. March 5, 1887; buried at Springfield, Ill.; m. Nov. 30, 1880.
108. Wilbur W. Jilson, b. -----.

Children:

109. Louis V., b. Jan. 4, 1882.
110. Ella Viola (111).
111. Eila V. Jilson, daughter of Mayble Clark Gourley; b. Dec. 26, 1883; m. June 28, 1905.
112. Roy J. Mason, b. June 23, 1878; resides in Chicago, Ill.

Child:

113. Kenneth Wilbur, b. July 1, 1906.

## PART II.

The following letters contain much of the family history obtainable, relating to the branches of the Gourley family in the United States:

Albert E. Gurley, of Willimantic, Conn., has recently published "The History and Genealogy of the Gurley Family," from which we extract the following as being of interest to this branch of the family:

"The Gurley motto is 'Profunda Cernit'—May it be realized in whatever clime, in seeing clearly our duty to God, and to avoid danger."

"Part First contains a very interesting account of our first ancestor of which the author of this history has been able to find any record of. He is Ingelram de Gurley, who accompanied William the Lion from Normandy, France, to Scotland in the year 1174, and for his sage counsels and good advice King William gave him a tract of land in Kincraig, in Fifeshire, which, I believe, is possessed by the name to this day."

NOTE.—Webster's International Dictionary, 1902, page 2077, says, under date of 1174, "William the Lion, King of Scotland, is taken prisoner by the English; he acknowledged the suzerainty of Henry II."—C. T. H.

In speaking of their religious convictions, he says:

"I find one who defied (in Scotland) the power of the Pope of Rome—that he had any power over the soul—but for this and the pamphlets he had secretly printed and circulated he had to flee Scotland, and went to England, but the king being a Catholic, he soon had to leave England, and went to Canada, where he remained for three years, and then returned to England, where he thrashed a man one day in Parliament for his abusive language to him; and for this thrashing he gave this member of Parliament he was put in prison. But, nevertheless, he always denied the power of the Pope of Rome to save or condemn the soul of man. This is the only account of any Gurley that I find that was ever arrested on the other side of the Atlantic ocean, and only one in the United States, and that an old soldier who was arrested for imbibing too much whisky and placed in the lockup over night and fined the next morning."

"I find that no Gurley in the United States at the present time that is either engaged in the manufacture or the sale of any intoxicating drink of any kind, and but very few that use it in any form."

"And for one, I am proud of the name of Gurley, and believe all should be I have made special inquiry in relation to temperance, character and religious qualifications relative to our name, and the same applies to the name Gourley and Gourlay."

In a letter to Mr. C. C. Lounsherry, Marshalltown, Iowa, he says: "I have copied off a few extracts which may be interesting to you, and I have a few more of a similar character. Just how far you design to carry your work I do not as yet fully understand. If you simply wish to trace back the line of Gourleys to which your mother is connected, or a general work for printing. However, that may be, you have started right for either—to get all the information you can and then look across the water for the balance."

It looks to me now from what you state to me in your letters, that if you design to carry your undertaking to a complete success that after you had obtained all the information you could on this side that some one would have to cross to the other side and search the records there. The records in Edinburgh, Scotland, are kept in the best of style and presume they are about the same in Ireland.

After the Gourlays first settled in Kincraig, Fifeshire, there was one who crossed over and settled in the north part of Ireland, and afterwards I learn others went to Ireland, but the larger part of the Gourley people remained in Scotland where there are quite a number of them at the present time. A few went to England. Also there is a branch which came to this country about 1675 and settled South, and if you look in the P. O. directory, you will find several P. O. by the

name of Gourlay: Gourley, Madison Co., Alabama; Gourley, Marion Co., Ohio; Gourley, Horry Co., S. C.; Gourley, Falls Co., Texas; Gourley's Creek, Jefferson Co., Ala., and Gourleyville, Tolland Co., Conn. (my native town). I have spent some six years of my life in traveling in the U. S. and been on the borders of Canada, and been in Mexico twice, lived twice in your state.

If you should conclude to want to have the records of Scotland or Ireland looked up in relation to the Gourlay history with the intention of getting out a book gives the history of those living in Scotland and Ireland so as to connect with those on this side I would be pleased to know about it. I am carrying on the work I am now engaged in wholly at my own expense, but to visit Scotland and Ireland to search the records there I should want my expenses paid mostly by others. If you should desire anything of this kind you perhaps might get others to assist in paying for looking up these records, but I leave the matter with you.

Extract from Burke's History of the Commoners. In notice of the family of Spens of Lathallan. Nathaniel Spens of Lathallan was restored heir to his father in 1662. He married a daughter of Sir Thomas Gourlay of Kineraig and had a son and successor Thomas Spens of Lathallan who married his cousin Margaret Gourlay, grandchild of Sir Thomas Gourlay of Kineraig, and had two sons.

"Profunda Cernit" is the Gourley motto. "May it be realized in whatever clime, in seeing clearly our duty to God and to avoid danger."

Extract from Burke's history of the Commoners, Vol. 4. In notice of the family of Taylor of Pennington. Col. Philip Van Cortlandt who died May 1st, 1814 had a numerous family. His daughter Catharine Van Cortlandt, twin with Mrs. Taylor, married Dr. William Gourlay, of Kineraig, Scotland, and of Maderia, and had issue.

John died without issue.

Jane married John Austine, Col. in the British army and Brigadier-General in the Portuguese army during the Peninsular war under the Duke of Wellington. They had issue, John, Eliza, Susan, Anna, Maria.

Other children of Dr. William Gourlay, of Kineraig, Scotland, were: Eliza; Catharine, married 1st Capt. R. Douglas, R. N., by whom she had no issue; Gertrude.

Col. Philip Van Cortlandt, of America, married Catharine, daughter of Dr. William Gourlay, of Kineraig, Fifeshire, Scotland, in 1787.

Sir William Bickerton, of Suffness, died in the time of King David Bruce, and left behind him three daughters; John Gourlay married one of them, and got with her the lands of Kineraig in Fife. (New Register.)

Extract from collections concerning the Scottish History of Sir James Dalrymple, Baronet, Edinburg, 1705. Preface pages 78 and 79. Speaking of the Register of New Bottle. In the year 1293 I see Sir Andrew Frazer, descended Vicomes de Stirviling, a witness in a character by William Gourlay to this Albacy, joined with Patrick de Graham, John de Callentra and William de Stirviling, Knights.

THOMAS B. GOURLAY.

EL PASO DE RABLES, CAL., December 16, 1896.

C. C. LOUNSBERRY, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Dear Sir: Your favor of November 8th is received. I will cheerfully give you all the information I can in regard to the Gourley family, but am sorry to say it will be limited, and reaches back to Grandfather Gourley only and was received chiefly from Grandma Gourley. My grandparents on my father's side came from Ireland, about the year 1784, grandma came from near Belfast, but if I ever knew what part of Ireland grandfather came from I have forgotten, neither do I know if they were acquainted in Ireland. The voyage was made in a sail vessel and took six weeks, during which time they became engaged and were married in Philadelphia, at which place they landed. Grandfather's name was Samuel, Grandmother's, Nancy Sibbet. They settled for a number of years in Pennsylvania but removed to Ohio—Pickaway Co.—where he died about the year 1820. He was a shoemaker by trade which he followed for a livelihood. They had eleven children, ten sons and one daughter. Of these I can remember but seven—William (Samuel Sibbet, my father), Nancy Sibbet, John, James, Joseph and Isaac. Of these Samuel, Nancy, James and Joseph were married. Samuel married Elizabeth Robinson, in Ohio. They had five children, three girls and two boys.

The two eldest and the youngest died young. My sister died at Pekin, Ill., some years ago, was married to Abram Haas, but left no children. This leaves me alone of my father's family. My parents moved to Wapello, Linn Co., Iowa, in 1837. He built the first house in that town. He and mother and my youngest sister died at that place in 1839. Nancy Lorance left no children. James (Mrs. Gehlman's father), left a large family of which she can better inform you than I. Joseph left four daughters and two sons who live in different parts of this state. Three of the girls are married.

William, John and Isaac, also Grandma, died on the homestead in Singen Grove, Linn Co., Iowa. Bertram, Grandma, died in 1860, the sons several years previously. I came to this state in 1859. Uncle Joe and Aunt Nancy came to California in 1864 and died some twelve years ago. I was married in Marion, Linn Co., Iowa, in 1859, to Miss Altea L. Hinckley and started to this state in a few days and have since resided here. We have five sons and four daughters, all grown. One son and two daughters married, all living in this state. Have heard of Gourleys in two different localities in this state but have not seen any of them.

With regards, I am,

Yours truly,

T. B. GOURLEY.

2926 Lorena St., BERKELEY, CAL., Oct. 2, 1904.

MR. C. T. HEYDECKER, Wanigan, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Several months since you wrote me for information of Uncle Joseph Gourley's family. I was not at that time possessed of the desired information and did not succeed in obtaining it by writing.

Later I paid a visit to Guerneville, Sonoma Co., Cal., and send you the family history as I was able to collect it.

Joseph Gourley was born in Pennsylvania, August 12th, 1812. Mary Jane Galbraith, his wife, born in Ohio, Sept. 10th, 1828. They were married in Illinois, May 3rd, 1840? Moved to Linn Co., Iowa, soon after. Came to California overland in 1864 and settled near Guerneville. Joseph Gourley died at same place, August 31st, 1873. Mary Jane, his wife, died at same place, January 9th, 1880. Their family consisted of five daughters and two sons, all at present living in this state, excepting the eldest, Alice, who died in Iowa, October 10th, 1846.

#### RECORD OF BIRTHS

Alice was born April 3rd, 1842; Lida Ann Gourley was born August 15th, 1844; Sarah Alice was born March 6th, 1847; Samuel Sibbet was born March 6th, 1849; Ina Jane was born January 13th, 1855; Thomas Burrell was born January 23rd, 1858; Minnie Ida was born January 20th, 1861. They were all born in Linn Co., Iowa.

Lida Ann Gourley and Oliver Wescott were married near Guerneville, May 2nd, 1866. They had four sons and one daughter. Two sons, George and Frederick are dead. Two, Frank and Benjamin are living and unmarried. The daughter, Mary, married James Banks and has three sons and two daughters, all living.

Sarah Alice Gourley and Charles B. Foster were married May 1st, 1857. Foster was drowned February 8th, 1878. They had three sons and two daughters. Two sons are dead, both daughters living and married.

Sarah Foster married a few years after Foster's death to Abraham Sterritt, in San Joaquin Co., Cal. Live at present near Reedley, Fresno Co., Cal. They had three sons and two daughters. One son and one daughter are dead. Cannot give names of children, nor dates of births or deaths.

Minnie Ida Gourley and Fredrick Ellison were married near Guerneville, August 17th, 1881. Ellison died in sanitarium at San Francisco, March 12th, 1899. Seven daughters were born to them, including one pair of twins. Born in following order: Georgie, Bessie, Grace twin, Lida, Ina and Geraldine. The eldest daughter married a Mr. Dillon, November 14th, 1901. Died August 31st, 1903, at Cazadero, Sonoma Co., Cal.

Am sorry I could not send the information sooner and fear it will be too late to be of service to you. Have had poor health for several years. If anything additional is needed will be pleased to do all I can to supply it.

Hoping this will find you and yours in good health and prosperity I am, with regards,

Yours very truly,

T. B. GOURLEY.

JAMES GOURLEY.

105 Walnut St., SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Oct. 31, 1895.

MR. C. C. LOUNSBERRY,

My Dear Friend: Yours of October 12th was brought to me by one of my brothers, thinking as I was the eldest of our family I would know more about what you wish than either of them. I was the eldest of ten children. I recall very little but have often thought since my father died I wish I had had him write down for us his early life. I know he was one of the younger sons of his parents and know they had ten sons and one daughter, Nancy, the eldest. My father's parents lived in Westmoreland County, Pa., emigrated to Ohio, near Circleville, and entered land there—my grandfather did. Samuel married there. The family then moved to Linn Co., Iowa, near Mt. Vernon.

The son Samuel moved to Peoria, Ill. My father came to this state with a brother-in-law of his brother, Samuel, and stayed on a farm with them for a good while near Decatur. He had previously learned the shoemaker's trade from his brother Samuel. He walked from Decatur here, put up at the largest hotel then here and obtained work, made friends and always lived here, and to the time of his death used to say he had as boy and man been in many places but always said Springfield was the place for him. Mr. Lincoln was our next neighbor for many years. Then he was elected. My father congratulated him. He said, "Jim you have not asked me for anything but I cannot forget the many kindnesses my family have had at your family's hands. What would you like?" He replied, "nothing for me but if you would give Harrison (my eldest brother) a lift, I'd be glad." Soon after he left, my brother was sent for from the Marine office in New York to report for duty. He entered there and has been promoted from place to place until now for about twenty years he has been chief clerk. (Now Deputy Naval Officer in New York City.) The next brother, Charles Sibbet Gourley, learned the jeweler's trade and went to Portland, Oregon, married a Miss Mary Stewart. They both are dead. Left two girls and two boys. The next girl Frances, was married to Nathan Gillman, is a widow with two boys. The next was Louise who married Elisha Hurt. She died in Barry, Ill. Albert F. Gourley and James, jewelers, both married in Springfield. Albert has three boys. James three boys and one girl. Caroline married C. T. Heydecker, of Waukegan, Ill., has three children—one boy and two girls. Mabel married W. Jilson, is dead, left two children, boy Louis, daughter Ella. I have five children, four boys and one girl. \* \* \* I do not think my father ever saw his grandparents. From the family Bible I find this—James Gourley, son of Samuel and Nancy Sibbet Gourley, born Aug. 2nd, 1808, in Westmoreland Co., Pa. So you see his father's name was Samuel and his mother's name Nancy, Sibbet being her maiden name. During the war a cousin of my father who was called to the bedside of a son who was sick at Camp Butler visited us. He and my father talked of their families. He had prepared a tree of the McCann's his father's family and was then looking up his mother's family. Sibbett said he would send my father a copy when done. He did so but we only kept it a few days and my father instead as I wished him to do, make a copy, could not wait he was so anxious his mother, sister and Uncle William and his brother Samuel's son who lived there should see it and send it back. They said they never got it—and that I suppose was lost. I wrote to Cousin McCann and instead of sending me another copy of the Sibbett family he sent that of the McCann, which only touches the Gourleys where his father married my grandmother's sister. The Uncle Samuel I spoke of moved from Peoria to Wisconsin. He and his wife died soon after each other and my father at the request of his brother expected to take charge of the son Thomas, and the wife's sister wanted the girl Hannah. Father went in a wagon from Springfield to Wisconsin, came home by Linn Co., Iowa, to see his mother, sister and brothers. Grandmother and Aunt Nancy would not hear of

father's bringing him away from them. The sister Hannah came to us for a visit, then went to her aunt, Mrs. Samuel Allen in Pekin. Thomas several times visited her and us. Hannah married Mr. Abram Haas, died several years ago, had always lived in Pekin. She visited grandmother and Aunt Nancy in Linn Co., Iowa, and talked about the family and knew more than I. She often said Aunt Nancy said all of the Gourleys came from the same "stock," and though none had made much noise in the world, all were respectable and had as clean a record as any family living. Thomas who grew up with Uncle William, Grandmother and Aunt Nancy, I feel sure can tell you a good deal that I perhaps never knew, and he is such a ready writer, and will make any statement he has to tell so plain." Grandmother died at the age of 89 about the year 1857, and Thomas married and went to California. In a short time Uncle William died and Aunt Nancy went with my Uncle Joseph's family to where Thomas was living, I think. Just after her mother's death she married a man by the name of Larence. I am under the impression he did not live long. \* \* \* Uncle Joe and wife died many years ago. Their daughter lived with Aunt Nancy. I never saw Aunt nor Grandmother. There I have written all this and not told you that I have heard our grandparents were born in Scotland of Irish parents and came to Pa. from Ireland. \* \* \* My cousin, Hannah's husband, used to call her Irish. She would remark, "I am Scotch-Irish protestant, and I glory in that I am." She was very bright and could always hold her own, a fluent talker and very earnest in her convictions, no half way about her. I can hear her say, "I am what I am—no halfway for a Gourley." Thomas, her brother, is a good talker and writer. I hope he will remember enough he has heard of grandmother, Aunt Nancy and Uncle William talk to have something to tell you. The brother, Harrison W. Gourley, in New York, married into one of the families in the state—the Sutherlands. Sister Ella tells H. he has no great grandfather. He always says he means to find his own family.

I am with much interest,

Yours sincerely,

MARHTA GOURLEY GEHMAN.

C. C. LOUNSBERRY.

MARSHALLTOWN, Iowa, Nov. 9th, 1895.

MRS. MARHTA GOURLEY GEHMAN,  
Springfield, Ill.

My Dear Friend: I was greatly pleased to get your kind letter of Oct. 31st, and I thank you most cordially for same.

My great grandfather was Samuel Gourley. It is handed down that he was born at "Mull of Glass, Scotland," but afterwards moved to Bambridge, County Down, Ireland, and there married my great grandmother whose maiden name was Margaret Dunn. They had seven children, to-wit, Thomas, Ann, Mary, Elizabeth, John, Samuel and William, started for America, which cost in those days fifty guineas each, that is \$250 each, but a plague of scurvy and smallpox broke out on the closely crowded ship and five out of the nine hundred on the ship board died and were buried at ocean and among them great grandfather's two sons, Samuel and William. They were eleven weeks crossing the ocean. Those left settled near Zanesville, Ohio. My grandfather James Gourley was born after they came to this country. They came in 1801. Thomas Gourley married three times and had a large family of children but most of them are now dead. Most of those living are now in Ohio. Ann married a Mr. Walker. Elizabeth married a Mr. Nixon. Mary married a James Gilson, and there are a number of their children at Mt. Vernon, our state, among them John Gibson. John had but one son and we have not heard from him for many years. Grandfather had the following children, Sarah, Agnes (mother), Anna Rebecka, James Artemis, Thomas Woodruff, Edwin Rufus, and Samuel Birch Gourley. Aunt Anna and "Wood" live in Denver, Col. Uncle Jim is now living at Shenandoah, Iowa, and the others at Denver. I shall write to your cousin Thomas G. to see if he can go farther back.

MARSHALLTOWN, Iowa, Feb. 9th, 1896.

MRS. MARHTA GEHMAN.

I quote the following from the letter of James Gourley, Detroit Mich.: "While I don't know much about our immediate ancestors, I know that the progenitor of

the Gourley family in Scotland came from Normandy in the year 1174 along with William the Lion, King of Scotland (who was brother to Malcolm the 4th, and grandson of David the 1st), with other Norman barons. William ascended the thrown in 1165, and reigned until 1214. Previous to 1174, while engaged in war with England he went there under a flag of truce and was treacherously captured and sent to Normandy a prisoner and had to remain there two or three years until released, as I said in 1174 when he returned to Scotland with a number of barons, among the number Ingleram de Gourley, the progenitors of the Gourleys of Great Britain. As the family increased they spread over the shires of Scotland, and Ireland, and later from there to America.

My mother does not resemble the Gourleys as much as she does her mother's family, the Mayhews. I was going to send you one of grandfather's photographs but have not succeeded in getting one yet. Grandfather had blue eyes, and "bay" hair as he used to call it—that is, a light brown, but my mother says that quite a number of his brothers had very black curly hair, and blue eyes such as you speak of, and one of mother's brothers, Samuel Birch Gourley has the same combination, except his hair is not curly. I will send you a cut of him in a few days. Grandfather Gourley was about five feet ten tall, and when I first knew him very fleshy and muscular.

MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, April 5th, 1896.

My Dear Mrs. Gehlman: Your kind letter of March 25th was duly received and contents carefully noted, and I thank you for same. In the same mail with your letter came a letter from Albert E. Gurley of Willimantic, Conn., who is about to publish a genealogy of the Gurley family. Following is a copy of his letter:

WILLIMANTIC, CONN., March 23rd, 1896.

MR. C. C. LOUNSPERRY,  
Marshalltown, Iowa.

Yours of March 3rd, 1896, is before me, and contents noted and placed your name on list of subscribers. My work will get into print some time between Nov. 1st, 1896 and Jan. 1st, 1897. I commence my final summing up about July 1st, next and am in hopes to get my work ready for print by Oct. 1st, if possible.

My work will give the history of the Gourleys which in 1066 was Thomas de Gourlay, but is now spelt Gourley, Gourlay, Gurley, and Girly. This last Girly does not appear in this country. Your mother's first ancestor (the same as my ancestor), was Thomas de Gourlay. He accompanied William the Conqueror when he went from Normandy, France into England, and afterwards one settled in Ireland, and today we are represented in England, Scotland, Ireland and America as my history and records will describe more fully when I get them into print.

I enclose a sample of my family record and photograph, as it will appear in the book when printed. The photograph adds much to make a family record complete.

Sincerely,

A. E. GOURLEY.

You speak about the names of your father's family and your own. You gave me the names of your father's family but not of your own. I have written to Mr. A. E. Gourley offering to aid him all I can and I have sent him copies of your first letter and that of your cousin, Thomas Gourley, and copies of some other letters. I think it would be well for you to get together as much as possible a full family record of your line, including dates of births, marriage and death as to all of your line as much as you can and let me know if I can be of any aid by corresponding with members of your family living at a distance, for these dates.

We certainly think all the Gourleys are related and it would seem that they need not go back more than seven or eight hundred years at furthest for any one family to find a common ancestor with all the others. I thank you for enclosing card of Jno. R. Gourley, of Terre Haute, Ind., and have taken the address and shall write him and herewith return you the card, as your brother may wish to keep it, or you may. I beg to thank you most sincerely for your very kind invita-

tion to come and see you, and may some day take advantage of it, but my regular employment keeps me here all the time and I don't seem to be able to get away from town. Mother desires me to say she read your letter and sends her regards.

Sincerely yours,

C. C. LOUNSBERRY.

JAS. GOURLAY.

A. L. GOURLAY

SHIRT MAKERS AND IMPORTERS OF MEN'S FURNISHING GOODS.

99 Woodward Avenue.

DETROIT, Mich., Nov. 13th, 1895.

MR. C. C. LOUNSBERRY,

Dear Sir: Yours of the 12th October was received and I am sorry to say that I am situated much in the same way as yourself with respect to my forefathers. My mother was father's second wife. He died when I was only ten years old, so that I never knew much about his relatives. My father's name was Robert. His first wife's name was Cameron. There were three children by the first wife, William (famous Scotch comedian), Thomas, and Sarah. Thomas died in Brooklyn, the other two in Scotland. The second family consisted of eight; Robert, John, Margaret, David, George, Lily, James and Alfred—all, including the first family, born in Edinburgh, Scotland. Robert and John, as well as father died in the old country. My mother whose maiden name was Lawson and the rest of the family came to New York in 1856 and lived there till 1870 when I came here with my wife, whose maiden name was Jean Fair Craig. The other members of the family came here within three or four years after, except my sister Lily who died in New York and was buried in Greenwood. Her husband's name was Welwood Murray. He went to California.

While I do not know much about our immediate ancestors, I do know that the progenitor of the Gourlay family in Scotland came from Normandie in the year 1174, with William the Lion, King of Scotland (who was brother to Malcolm the 4th and grandson of David the 1st), along with other Norman barons. William ascended the throne in 1165, reigned till 1214. Previous to 1174 while engaged in war with England he went there under a flag of truce and was treacherously captured and sent to Normandie a prisoner and had to remain there two or three years till released, as I said in 1174 when he returned to Scotland, accompanied by a number of barons. Among them Ingleram de Gourlay, the progenitor of the Gourlays of Great Britain. As the family increased they spread over the shires of Scotland, England and Ireland, and later from there to America.

In 1787 Col. Philip Van Cortlandt, of America, married Catharine, daughter of William Gourlay, of Kincaird, Fifeshire, who was one of the family whose line is distinctly traced back to the original member by deeds and conveyances in the records of Fife and is the line to which I believe our family belongs, because while we were born in Edinburgh my father and mother were both born in Fifeshire—mother being related to the Gourlay family before her marriage to father. There was only one of the name here when I came to Detroit, in 1870. Now there are several families. There are Gourlays in Albany, Troy, New York, Brooklyn, St. Paul and in Canada, but as you say they are not numerous and I am very much inclined to be clannish and am very much interested, and I am going to send for a book which I understand is being published giving an account of the old Scotch families including the house of Gourlay.

The name is spelled in various ways as De Gourlay, De Gourle, De Gurla, Gourlay, Gourlag, Gurlie, Gurli, etc., but they are all the same family. The upper-half of our trade mark is the family coat of arms. Am sorry that I cannot give you more of the information which you desire but such as I have, I gladly give you. With respect, I am,

Sincerely yours,

JAMES GOURLAY.

My brother George is a great enthusiast. He wants to know what you think of getting up a family reunion or something of that sort.

ARTHUR GOURLEY.

CHICAGO, Oct. 14, 1895.

C. C. LOUNSBERRY, Esq., Marshalltown, Iowa.

Dear Sir: Yours of the 12th to hand and I am glad to answer your questions as far as I can. I was born in Ireland, Tyrone County, and worked on a farm near a little town called Cookstown, Ireland, was married there and came to Chicago direct in 1871. My wife's maiden name was McKinney. Was married in Ireland, my father's family and wife's family being neighbors. We have only one child living, she is married to Mr. J. L. Campbell, secretary of the above company. I have three brothers living. One in Oregon, one in Chicago, and one still on the old homestead in Ireland. My father's name was Arthur and he had two brothers. One of them was named George and I cannot remember much about him. The other's name was Adam and he came to Philadelphia about 40 years ago, had a large family but have only seen two of them since I came here. My grandfather's name was Arthur. He had a brother that came to the states a long time ago and left quite a legacy to the heirs. My father was born in 1796. My mother's name was McKinney. My wife's name and mother's is the same name but no relation. My mother's name was Eliza. She is dead 35 years—died at the age of 56. My father was 84 when he died. It is hard for me to tell the ages of great grandfather and grandfather. My age is 53. When I came to Chicago I started to work in a lumber yard and worked my way up through all the departments except bookkeeper, of the largest yard in Chicago—S. K. Martin Lumber Co. I was with this firm 19 years, was the manager for some nearly 15 years, was a partner and vice-president five years. We have been in business under this name 5 years. We sell over 35 millions per year and our business is still growing.

Now if there are any other questions about the family would be pleased to answer them. As far I can remember this generation are all Presbyterians and was the same for four or five generations before this. There was also a family by the name of William Gourley and one by the name of Jno. Gourley that lived in Cookstown, Ireland, but I have lost track of them.

Respectfully,

ARTHUR GOURLEY.

NOTE.—Two nephews of Arthur Gourley, the writer of above letter, named John and Thomas, reside at Wankegan, Ill., and are engaged in the lumber business.

THOMAS GOURLEY.

Mrs. Lillian Gray Howard, of Chariton, Iowa, furnishes the following information relating to one of the Thomas Gourley families.

MR. C. T. HEYDECKER,

Dear Sir: In reply to yours of the 31st ultimo, will say my knowledge of the Gourley family is very limited; but most gladly will assist you that much.

I do not know if you desire the family carried down as far as I have in the enclosed sheet, but you can do as you wish.

In all cases of marriages I am not acquainted with names, but can find out some of them; also children's names, viz.: Reuben Guy's children; John T. Sutphin's wife; William Gourley's family. Also Perry and T. Pressley Gaither's families.

I wrote to Chester, S. C., a few years ago, and learned of James Gourley, Olive, York Co., S. C. I wrote but received no answer.

Also in tracing the Wylies (my maternal grandmother being a Wylie), I wrote the Rev. David G. Wylie, and learned that his maternal grandmother was a Gourley; hence his middle name is Gourley. His address was, 161 West 93rd Street, New York.

With sincere wishes for your success in this, I am,

Yours very truly,

LILLIAN GRAY HOWARD.

The Mr. Gourley first mentioned lived in North Carolina, but removed to South Carolina. His sons then went to Indiana. Thomas, who had married in South Carolina (my grandfather), moved to Monroe Co., near Bloomington; and Joseph and William to Gibson Co., near Princeton.

Robert Gourley, nephew of above mentioned Mr. Gourley, and cousin of my

grandfather, lived in Bloomington, Ind. My mother thinks his wife's name was McKissick. He had two sons, one, Hamilton, died unmarried. The other, William, married Margaret Harbison. One daughter, Sarah, married Joseph Frost; the other, Rachel, was married but do not know to whom.

Thomas Gourley, brother of the above named Robert, went from Monroe Co., Ind., to Princeton, Ind. We know nothing of his family. During the Civil War he was called "Abolition" Tom.

In writing of my grandfather, Thomas Gourley, I omitted such dates as I knew. He was born in Chester District, I think, in South Carolina, in 1814; was married there to Margaret Wylie, about 1833, and died in Logan Co., Ill., in 1881.

These dates may be of no use to you unless in the placing of those of the same name, and there seems a number of such.

There may be mistakes in what I have written, as we have no records, but my mother is sure about most of the names. I will write immediately to an aunt, older than my mother, who may remember their grandfather's name. If I can be of any service to you again, please do not hesitate to write me.

Thomas Gourley married a Miss Wilson.

(1) Robert.

(2) Thomas married Margaret Wylie

1. Mary E. married John K. Gaither

1. Perry.

2. T. Pressley.

3. Frank.

4. Tolbe.

5. Jay.

2. Nancy.

3. Lillie A. married Samuel Guy

1. Annie.

2. Reuben married Mary Beck.

3. Samuel M. married Hester Ewing.

1. Earl.

2. William.

Lillie A. Gourley also married John Sutphin.

1. William.

2. Alvia.

3. Margaret A.

4. John T.

5. Montagne.

6. Lillie L. married B. M. Seal

1. Alberta B.

4. Margaret R. married Andrew D. Gray.

1. Minnie L. married Chas. R. Kirk

2. Lilian G. married Chas. E. Howard

3. Edgar E. married Minnie Soper

1. Margaret Annis.

Wright

5. Sarah L.

Thomas Gourley again married Elizabeth Daniels

1. Martha J.

2. John P.

3. Agnes.

4. Sarah A.

5. William.

(3) Joseph (married twice, but do not know either name)

1. Martha, married Thomas Bugg

2. Mary, married Cyrus Martin

3. Louisa.

4. Margaret.

5. Thomas.

Second marriage.

1. Susan.

- (4). William, married Margaret.
  1. John.
  2. Thomas.
  3. ——.
  4. William.
- (5). Hugh.
- (6). Nancy, married Mr. Hindman (?) of Alabama.

### SAMUEL B. GOURLEY.

The following account of Samuel Gourley's family has been furnished by Samuel B. Gourley of Chicago, Illinois, a descendant of said Samuel Gourley.

After making a careful investigation as to this Samuel Gourley's family and the Samuel Gourley's family which is fully set forth in this book, I am satisfied that the two Samuel Gourleys were very nearly related in Scotland; the dates of birth of both occurred about the same time; they are probably related no further distant than first cousins. Neither one of these Samuel Gourley's ancestor's name can be given.

This is my conclusion after careful investigation.

C. T. H.

Samuel Gourley was born at Mull of Glass, Scotland, about 1755.

Lady Margaret Dunn was born at Bainbridge, County Down, Ireland, about 1760.

Samuel Gourley and Lady Margaret Dunn were married at Bainbridge, Ireland, about 1780, emigrated to America in 1801, settled at Sarahsville, Belmont Co., Ohio, where Samuel died Oct. 23, 1818, and Lady Margaret, his wife, March 29, 1821.

James Gourley, son of Samuel and Lady Margaret, was born at St. Clairsville, Belmont Co., Ohio, June 16, 1804.

Emeline Mayhew was born at St. Clairsville, Ohio, Aug. 13, 1817.

James Gourley and Emeline Mayhew were married in their native place, Aug. 10, 1847.

There were born to them at Morristown, Belmont County, Ohio, six children, to-wit:

John William, July 31, 1848; Sarah Agnes, Dec. 5, 1850; Anna Rebecca, Feb. 4, 1852; James Artemus, March 22, 1853; Thomas Woodruff, Nov. 8, 1854; Edwin Rufus, Sept. 19, 1856.

In the year 1857, they removed to Marshalltown, Marshall County, Iowa, where another son named Samuel Birch, was born Feb. 24, 1859, and where both James and Emeline died, James, Jan. 17, 1888; Emeline, Dec. 21, 1867.

Their eldest son, John William, also died at Marshalltown, May 5, 1868, and their son, Edwin Rufus, at Gifford, Hardin County, Sept. 29, 1883.

Harvey Wellington Lounsberry was born at Lexington, Richland County, Ohio, March 14, 1844. He and Sarah Agnes Gourley, daughter of James and Emeline Gourley, were married at Marshalltown, Iowa, Nov. 22, 1871.

Children were born to them as follows, at Union, Hardin County, Iowa: Cecil Claude, Aug. 30, 1872; Harold Claire, June 14, 1874. At Albion, Marshall County, Iowa: James Clyde, Sept. 2, 1876, died Dec. 17, 1881. And at Marshalltown, Iowa: Mable Maude, Sept. 17, 1878, died June 27, 1883; Carl William, May 18, 1883; Iva Anna, June 29, 1885; Chancel Ray, April 2, 1888; Vance Earl, Aug. 24, 1890; Forrest Norman, Jan. 18, 1894, died April 22, 1903.

Harriet Ellen Isham was born —.

Cecil Claude Lounsberry, son of Harvey W. and Sarah Agnes, and Harriet Ellen Isham were married at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Sept. 20, 1899.

Cecil Isham Lounsberry, son of Cecil and Harriet, was born Sept. 9, 1900.

Leon Claude born Jan. 18, 1903, and died Jan. 8, 1904.

Charles Benson Slocumb was born at Phillipstown, Ill., Oct. 31, 1843.

Hon. Charles B. Slocumb and Anna Rebecca Gourley were married at Eldora, Hardin County, Iowa, Jan. 22, 1874.

Florence Ethel, daughter of Hon. C. B. and Anna R. Slocumb, was born at Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska, Sept. 11, 1876.

Minnie Yoicum was born at Bushnell, Ill., Jan. 9, 1869.

James Artemus Gourley and Minnie Yoicum were married at Atwood, Kansas, July 8, 1890.

Cyr. D., son of James A. and Minnie Gourley, was born at Denver, Colo., July 28, 1891.

Maude Mayhew was born at Newton, Jasper County, Iowa, Nov. 25, 1866.

Thomas Woodruff Gourley and Maude Mayhew were married at Denver, Colo., Nov. 14, 1894.

### JOSEPH GOURLY

Mr. C. T. Heydecker,  
Waukegan, Ill.

Mattoon, Ill., July 1, 1904

Dear Sir:

Have been informed by Mr. Gourley of Springfield, Ill., that you are getting up a family tree of the Gourley family. I should like to hear from you and what bunch of the family you belong to.

My father's name was James R. Gourley, his father's name was Joseph Gourley. James R. Gourley has a sister living in Milroy, Mrs. Sallie McNitt; the above are all dead except Mrs. Sallie McNitt. My grandfather came from Scotland.

If you have any books out in regard to the family let me know.

Very truly yours,

JOHN T. R. GOURLY

John Thomas Robert Gourley, the only child of James R. Gourley and Mary Jane Gourley, was born at Shirley, Illinois, January 25, 1858. When about six months old, his mother died. On August 20, 1862, his father was mustered into Company I, of the 94th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteers at Bloomington, Illinois. Then after a forced march of one hundred and twenty miles in three and a half days, he took part in a battle of Prairie Grove, Ark., December 7, 1862. He also took part in the raid over Boston Mountains in Van Buren, Ark., and a portion of the company engaged in the repulse of Marmaduke at Springfield, Mo., Jan. 8, 1863, and near this place it is supposed he took sick with fever and died. I was put in a family by the name of John McNitt after the death of my mother.

At the age of about six years, I was taken to Logansport, Ind., and placed in the family of my uncle, Robert G. McNitt, a brother of my mother. After his death, another brother, C. M. McNitt, took me and raised me until I was twenty-one years of age. Both of the above were my guardians. My grandfather, who came to this country from Scotland, was named Joseph Gourley and my grandmother, who came from Ireland, was Margaret McNitt, and both located on a farm near Milroy, Pa. They had two children, James R. Gourley, my father, and Mrs. Sallie McNitt, who is still living in Milroy, Pa. On March 1st, at the age of twenty-three, I bought one-third interest in the saddlery firm of C. M. McNitt, at Logansport, Ind., and remained in business with him about five years, and then my health failing me, I was compelled to seek out-door employment. I left Logansport, Sept. 1, 1887, for Terre Haute, Indiana, and traveled for Froeh Bros., representing them on the road for five years in the saddlery hardware business. On Dec. 12, 1892, I left the above firm and went with J. O. Fleckner & Son, of Evansville, Ind., and remained with them four years. Then finding my health much improved in the nine years I was on the road, I again went into business for myself at Mattoon, Illinois, on Dec. 18, 1896, where I am engaged at the present time. Aug. 15, 1905, in the manufacture of saddlery and harness.

J. T. R. GOURLY

### GEORGE GOURLY.

Mr. C. T. Heydecker:

Your letter handed to me for reply, would say we have a Gourley reunion here every year, and they turn out like flies around a sugar barrel in fly

Frostburg, Pa., Jan. 22, 1906

time. If any Gourleys in your section give me their names I will send them invitations to our reunion for next summer.

I would like to know the object of your wanting records. I live on my grandfather's farm, which was among the first settled, he first built a log cabin, some time after built a plank house in 1845, which is very good yet and I am living in same.

E. C. GOURLEY.

It is thought that George Gourley and Samuel Gourley, who came to America about 1784, were brothers. The location of their settlement in Pennsylvania would lead to that conclusion. The following article on the George Gourley's family record has been furnished by Miss Mary B. Crawford of Smickburg, Pa.

#### GOURLEY ANCESTRY.

George Gourley was born in 1769, in Ireland, probably in Londonderry, and in 1816 he came to America, and after deciding upon a desirable location in Nova Scotia, he sent for his wife, Rosannah McNeal, who came bringing their six children. They then removed to Sinking Valley, Blair County, Pennsylvania, where Mr. Gourley worked as a blacksmith and gave evidence of superior skill in his chosen work. Later he purchased a large farm in Indiana County, where his growing boys found employment in clearing the forest and tilling the soil as well as assisting their father in the smithery. It was true of them as of most early settlers—life was fraught with many hardships—luxuries were few, but devotion to duty developed noble character, possessing a sturdiness almost unknown to one born to ease.

Mr. Gourley was one who enjoyed having things about him conveniently and neatly arranged and did much which contributed to the comforts of his home; moreover he was of a practical turn of mind, and on one occasion his attention was called to a flower bed, he replied: "I would rather see a good hill of paratus (potatoes).

Mrs. Gourley, nee Rosannah McNeal, was a most remarkable woman in many respects. She possessed a very amiable disposition, was a faithful wife, a devoted mother and a friend to all who knew her, very industrious in her habits, which is illustrated by this: During the harvest time she and her daughters assisted in the fields and at the noon hour while the men rested, the girls cleared the table and set the house in order and she sat down to her spinning wheel and busied herself making preparations for protection against the next winter's cold. In after years her own enfeebled body seemed to be a result of her life of overwork.

This couple being stanch Presbyterians and devout worshippers of God, were always observant of time for family prayers and on Sabbath rode on horseback to Perry Presbyterian church, a distance of eight miles away.

Their children all embraced the faith of their parents. The sons all became successful farmers and mechanics. Three of the daughters married farmers and one an expert tailor. Their children's children numbering about sixty-five, excepting a few have always resided in western Pennsylvania, in the farming district. As a people they are kind hearted, given to hospitality, industrious, yet find great enjoyment in recreation. Talented in music and many of them enjoy dancing, or at least a number of them participated in the amusement at the Annual Reunion of the Gourleys, held in 1904.

Of the fourth generation about one hundred and twenty-five are living; among them are found five who have chosen the medical profession, six whose husbands attach the M. D. to their signature, one professional nurse, one lawyer, one the wife of a Presbyterian minister, another of a civil engineer, one of an inventor, one a minister of the gospel, half a dozen tradesmen, one telegraph operator and a number of laborers, teachers, students, business men and farmers.

Of the fifth generation there are living approximately one hundred and twenty-five, among whom are found teachers, seamstresses, students and a number skilled in domestic science and at least three have shown a willingness to continue in this line, as they have begun "housekeeping just for two," and two members of the sixth generation were here to welcome the year 1906.

George Gourley, born 1769, died Sept. 6, 1853; Rosannah McNeal, born —, died Sept. 9, 1853.

Their children: Thomas, born Oct. 28, 1805; John, born May 19, 1808, died May, 1891; James, born Aug. 23, 1810, died March 21, 1867; Margaret, born Jan. 24, 1812; Alexander, born June 4, 1814; George, born March 17, 1816, died Jan. 23, 1846; Rosanna, born March 12, 1819; Armstrong, born Sept. 15, 1820; Robert, born May 27, 1822; Nancy, born Nov. 23, 1823; Mary Ann, born Sept. 18, 1826.

James Gourley, born Aug. 23, 1810, died March 21, 1867; Margaret Young Travis, born Dec. 7, 1818, died Jan. 1, 1889.

Their children: Lousia Barrett, born Feb. 16, 1837, died Sept. 23, 1857; Mary Rosannah, born Jan. 27, 1841; Margaret Ann, born May 5, 1843, died Aug. 25, 1882; Joseph Travis, born July 7, 1845; John McNeal, born Aug. 3, 1847; William Simms, born Nov. 5, 1850, died Sept. 18, 1853.

## JOHN M. GOURLEY

John M. Gourley, a descendant of Geo. Gourley, was born in Indiana Co., Pa., 1847. He had one sister, Mary Crawford, and one brother, Joseph Gourley, both of whom are living. John M. Gourley moved from Indiana Co., Pa., to Paxton, Ill., in 1870. He was married in 1873 to Mary Lantz, and to them seven children were born—William G., Frederick L., James, Mary, Margaret, Joseph and Blanche. All are living except Blanche, who died in her infancy. They still reside on a farm near Paxton, Ill.

Wm. G. was married in 1898 to Edith Parker; to them three children, Leonard, Orin and Cecil, were born. Frederick L. was married to Margaret MacInnis, 1904, and now is a physician in Waukegan, Ill. Joseph Gourley, brother of John M., was married to Jennie Doak, 1871, to them three children were born, May, Emma and Preston. Preston died in infancy. May died at the age of twenty-six years. Emma is still living, married to Weightman Smith, and lives with her father in Evans, Colo.

Thomas Gourley was second lieutenant, 2nd Battalion, Pennsylvania Rifles, and was promoted to captain. Address not known. This information was found in a war history of Pennsylvania.

Account of Gourley Reunion as published in the Punxsutawney - Pa. Spirit, of August 13, 1908:

## GOURLEY FAMILY HOLDS ITS SIXTH ANNUAL CELEBRATION, AUGUST 12, 1908

— — — — —  
150 Friends and Relatives Attended. Doctors Galore. Baseball Game was the Big Feature of the Day.

The happy, well-fed, baseball-loving Gourleys, to the number of 150, including many friends, yesterday congregated at Jefferson Park and spent the day, the occasion being the sixth annual reunion of the family.

It was high noon before the enrollment was complete, but the clans were not long in distributing themselves at the various tables. There were practically four banquets going on, all at the same time, but the Gourley women, who are famous throughout this section as culinary artists, were equal to the occasion. They not only had enough on hand to supply the reunionsists for dinner, but they had an abundance left over for supper and at least three-fourths of those present remained for the evening event. How many courses the menu card contained nobody stopped to figure out, but there was a plenty.

The Gourley family includes a large sprinkling of M. D.'s and hence they take great liberties with capacity. Yesterday there were included in the bunch seven physicians, namely Harry and Russell C. Gourley, W. B. and Meigs Beyer, John A. and Clark Newcome and Dr. S. S. Hamilton, and there are several M. D.'s in the connection who were unable to be present.

The elders of the reuniting family were all present, including James A. Gourley, of Big Run, Crawford and John A. Gourley and Mrs. Jacob Gruber, of Punxsutawney.

Relatives from a distance present were: Mr. and Mrs. A. C. McClung, of Mason, O.; Dr. and Mrs. John Newcome and family, of Sigel, and Mrs. Dr. W. H. Gilmore, of Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Guests from out of town were Rev. and Mrs. Coulter, of Big Run, and Rev. A. C. Powell, of Marion Center.

Aside from the noon and evening banquets the annual ball game was the feature.

Lex N. Mitchell and Syl Gourley were selected to pick up sides; Mitchell won the toss for first bats, but Gourley won the game, 22 to 18.

The teams lined up as follows:

Dr. Clark Newcome, p; Meiggs Beyer, c; Jacob Grube, s; Dr. Russell Gourley, 1st; Daniel Gourley, 2nd; Dr. Harry Gourley, 3rd; Syl Gourley, r; Aubrey McHenry, m; Charles Veil, l; Walter Veil, sub catcher; score 22.

Lex Mitchell's team—Dr. John Newcome, p; Lewis Grube, c; Mitchell, 1st; George Gourley, 2nd; Dr. W. F. Beyer, 3rd; A. C. McClung, r; David Gourley, m; J. J. Hamilton, s; James Gourley, l; score 18.

Umpire—Ty-on; official scorer—Dr. S. S. Hamilton.

The game began immediately after dinner and was concluded some time before midnight. The number of innings played is very much in doubt. The official scorer's data was kept on wooden pie plates, one plate for each inning and as some of them were used to pass pies around during the intervals between innings, they were taken into the system, inadvertently.

There were no stomach pumps in the crowd and hence the records will probably be lost. It was generally conceded that the game went somewhere between 50 and 60 innings.

Until a couple more pages are added to the paper it will be impossible to print the tabulated score in a single issue.

Features of the game, besides the battery work, were Syl Gourley's even dozen home runs, the base stealing stunts pulled off by Dr. W. F. Beyer, Dave Gourley's long sprint and capture of a foul (off the table).

Crawford Gourley and Adam Miller won the honors at quoits, their prizes being a bunch of lemons and a good luck trophy in the shape of a mule shoe.











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